

FISCAL NOTE

HB 522 - SB 786

March 10, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Expands the definition of *law enforcement officer* within the scholarship program established by the Dependent Children Scholarship Act, to include the surviving dependents of certain deceased or permanently disabled state and local public employees commissioned to carry a firearm when engaged in the performance of job-related duties.

To the extent funds are available, TSAC shall award a scholarship to any eligible applicant for full-time postsecondary undergraduate or vocational study at an eligible educational institution. If funds are insufficient to provide scholarships to all eligible applicants, awards shall be based on the financial need of the student. The award shall include tuition and other required fees and allowances for books, supplies and room and board.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Less than \$15,000

Estimate assumes:

- The class of those eligible under this bill is not large enough to result in any significant impact to higher education.
- Scholarships would only be awarded to the extent funds are available for this purpose.
- The cost of attendance (includes tuition and fees, books, supplies, room and board) for a public 4-year institution ranges from approximately \$9,000 to \$14,000 per year. The cost of attendance at a 2-year public institution is estimated to be between \$2,500 and \$5,000.
- If one student per year became eligible for the scholarship, state expenditures could increase from \$2,500 to \$14,000 per year.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Davenport". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director